

**TESTIMONY ON BEHALF OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE MARC ELRICH ON Expedited Bill 21-21,
Fire and Rescue Services - Length of Service Awards Program for Volunteers - Amendments**

Good afternoon Council President Hucker and Members of the County Council. I am Dale Tibbitts, speaking on behalf of County Executive Marc Elrich.

The County Executive supports Bill 21-21 and the Council as indicated its intent to approve funding for the MCVFRA Agreement. The bill would increase the amount of the length of service benefits to certain local fire and rescue department volunteers and provide points for activities cancelled due to COVID-19 in the length of service benefits to certain local fire and rescue department volunteers. The increased length of service benefit is appropriate for the benefit the County receives from their service.

The Volunteers are critical to the County's Fire and Rescue Service.